Application No. 10/651,041 Amendment dated October 31, 2005 Reply to Office Action of September 29, 2005

Docket No.: 4799-0119P Art Unit 3637 Page 2 of 16 pages

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In the Drawing Figures:

Figures 1 and 2 have been labeled --BACKGROUND ART--, to be consistent with the specification in paragraphs [0014] and [0015].

Docket No.: 4799-0119P Art Unit 3637

Page 13 of 15 pages

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-12, 14-25 and 33 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 19 and 33 are independent. Claims 13 and 26-32 have been canceled. Claims 33-34 have been added. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended.

Consideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Election Requirement

The Examiner has required an election between the following species:

Species I:

Figs. 3-11 (claims 1-12, 14-18 and 33)

Species II:

Figs. 12-17 (claims 19-25 and 33)

Species III:

Figs. 18-25 (claims 26-31)

Species IV: Fig. 26 (claims 32-34)

Applicant elects Species I. Claims 1-12, 14-18 and 33 read on the elected species. Also, it is submitted that claim 33 is generic to Species I, II and IV.

Docket No.: 4799-0119P Art Unit 3637 Page 14 of 15 pages

Proposed Drawing Amendments

Applicant submits herewith, proposed drawing corrections to Figures 1 and 2. Figures 1 and 2 have been labeled --BACKGROUND ART--, to be consistent with the specification in paragraphs [0014] and [0015].

Changes to the Specification and Claims

Several instances in the specification and claims have been grammatically revised.

Application No. 10/651,041

Amendment dated October 31, 20

Amendment dated October 31, 2005

Reply to Office Action of September 29, 2005

Docket No.: 4799-0119P

Art Unit 3637

Page 15 of 15 pages

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Scott L. Lowe (Reg. No. 41,458) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 31, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

Scott L. Lowe

Registration No.: 41,458

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant